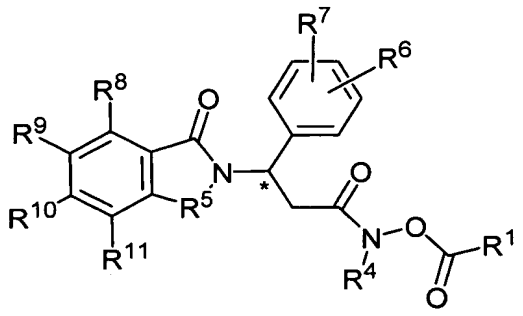
Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a compound of the formula:



or an acid addition salts thereof,

wherein

the carbon atom designated * constitutes a center of chirality,

R^4 is hydrogen or -(C=O)-R^{12};

each of R^1 and R^{12}, independently of each other, is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl methyl, pyridyl, imidazoyl, imidazolylmethyl, or

$CHR^*(CH_2)_nNR^*R^0$

wherein $R^*$and R^0, independently of the other, are hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, pyridyl, imidazoyl or imidazolylmethyl, and n = 0, 1, 2;

R^5 is C=O, CH_2, -CH_2-CO-, or SO_2;

each of R^6 and R^7, independently of the other, is nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, carbethoxy, carbomethoxy, carbopropoxy, acetyl, carbamoyl, acetoxy, carboxy, hydroxy, amino, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxy of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, cycloalkoxy of 3 to 8 carbon atoms, halo, bicycloalkyl of up to 18 carbon atoms, tricycloalkoxy of up to 18 carbon atoms, 1-

indanyloxy, 2-indanyloxy, C_4-C_8-cycloalkylidenemethyl, or C_3-C_{10}-alkylidenemethyl; and

each of R^8, R^9, R^{10}, and R^{11} independently of the others, is

(i) hydrogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, carbethoxy, carbomethoxy, carbopropoxy, acetyl, carbamoyl, acetoxy, carboxy, hydroxy, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, acylamino, alkyl of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, alkoxy of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, halo, or

(ii) one of R^8, R^9, R^{10}, and R^{11} is acylamino comprising a lower alkyl, and the remaining of R^8, R^9, R^{10}, and R^{11} are hydrogen, or

(iii) hydrogen if R^8 and R^9 taken together are benzo, quinoline, quinoxaline, benzimidazole, benzodioxole, 2-hydroxybenzimidazole, methylenedioxy, dialkoxy, or dialkyl, or

(iv) hydrogen if R^{10} and R^{11}, taken together are benzo, quinoline, quinoxaline, benzimidazole, benzodioxole, 2-hydroxybenzimidazole, methylenedioxy, dialkoxy, or dialkyl, or

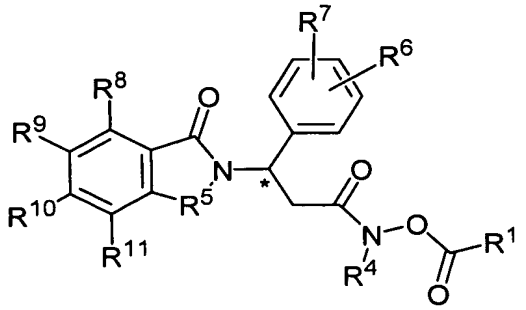
(v) hydrogen if R^9 and R^{10} taken together are benzo; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2-4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

(a) a compound of the formula:



or an acid addition salt thereof,

in which

the carbon atom designated * constitutes a center of chirality;

R^4 is hydrogen or -(C=O)-R^{12}, where

each of R^1 and R^{12}, independently of each other, is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl, pyridyl methyl, imidazolyl, imidazoylmethyl, or $CHR^*(CH_2)_nNR^*R^0$

wherein $R^*$and R^0, independently of the other, are hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, benzyl, pyridylmethyl, pyridyl, imidazoyl or ~~imidazolylmethlyl~~ imidazolylmethyl, and n = 0, 1, 2;

R^5 is C=O or CH_2;

each of R^6 and R^7, independently of the other is alkoxy of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, cycloalkoxy of 3 to 6 carbon ~~atoms.~~ atoms; C_4-C_6-cycloalkylidenemethyl, C_2-C_{10}-alkylidenemethyl, C_6-C_{18}-bicycloalkoxy, C_6-C_{18}-tricycloalkoxy, 1-indanyloxy, or 2-indanyloxy;

each of R^8, R^9, R^{10}, and R^{11}, independently of the others, is hydrogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, carbethoxy, carbomethoxy, carbopropoxy, acetyl, halo, carbamoyl, acetoxy, carboxy, hydroxy, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, acylamino, alkyl of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, and alkoxy of 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6-18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer~~,~~ or a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer~~, or a mixture thereof, and wherein the composition is useful for reducing or inhibiting levels of TNFα, PDE 4 or matrix metalloproteinases in a mammal~~.

20-29. (Canceled).

30. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein said compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer~~,~~ or a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer~~, or a mixture thereof, wherein the composition is useful for reducing or inhibiting the levels of TNFα, PDE 4 or a matrix metalloproteinase in a mammal~~.

31-40. (Canceled).

41. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 or 5, wherein the compound is (3-(1,3-dioxoindolin-2-yl)-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methxoyphenyl)propanoylamino) propanoate; (3-(1,3-dioxoindolin-2-yl)-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)propanoylamino) acetate; (3-(1,3-dioxoindolin-2-yl)-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)propanoylamino) pentanoate; (3-(1,3-dioxoindolin-2-yl)-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)propanoylamino) benzoate; (3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(1-oxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanoylamino) acetate; (3-[4-(acetylamino)-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl]-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl) propanoylamino)acetate; (3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(4-methyl-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanoylamino)acetate; (3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(5-methyl-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanoylamino)acetate; (3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(4-methyl-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanoylamino)acetate; (3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(5-methyl-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanoylamino)acetate; N-acetyl-(3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(5-methyl-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanoylamino) acetate; N-acetyl-(3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(4-methyl-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanoylamino) acetate; (3-[5-(acetylamino)-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl]-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)propanoylamino)acetate; (3-(1,3-dioxobenzo[e]isoindolin-2-yl)-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)propanoylamino)acetate; (3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-phthalimido-propanoylamino)pyridine-3-carboxylate; (3-[4-(acetylamino)-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl]-3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)propanoylamino)acetate; (N-acetyl-3-[4-(acetylamino)-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl]-3-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)propanoylamino)acetate; or (3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(1-oxoisoindolin-2-yl)propanoylamino)acetate.

42. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 41, wherein the compound is a substantially chirally pure (R)-isomer or a substantially chirally pure (S)-isomer.